

## **ROOFS AND COVERS (CODE 367)**

### **DESCRIPTION**

A rigid, semi-rigid, or flexible manufactured membrane, composite material, or roof structure placed over a heavy use area protection.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this practice is to provide a roof or cover for water quality improvement by diverting clean water from animal management areas, Heavy Use Areas - 561 (ie. barnyard, feedlot, or exercise area).

### **CONDITION**

This practice applies where exclusion of precipitation from an outdoor animal management area, waste storage facility, or waste treatment facility will improve management of an existing or planned animal waste handling system or eliminate a pollution concern.

### **POLICIES**

1. In cases of Roofs and Covers over a Heavy Use Area Protection where animal waste accumulates, the location of the area must be such that the delivery of contaminated runoff to local streams or waterways has the potential to occur in the absence of this proper BMP. **A minimum of fifteen (15) animal units must regularly use or occupy the area being protected.**
2. To qualify for this practice a required minimum of 40 square feet of housing, per animal unit, must be available or provided by the applicant. This area must be used solely as housing (not storage) for the duration of the maintenance life of the practice.
3. Cost-sharing is authorized for any construction of a roof or cover up to 60 square feet, per animal unit, for a required total of 100 contiguous square feet per animal unit. If 100 square feet of a covered housing currently exists, then cost-sharing may be authorized by the MACS Administrator only for the construction of up to an additional 40 square feet per animal unit.
4. Cost-sharing is authorized for the required waste storage/management in a method compliant with the Waste Management System Plan (WMSP).
5. This practice will be applied on farms where animal waste from existing heavily used animal areas pose a significant water quality problem. A Critical Condition (defined in the COMAR 15.01.05.02.C) must exist to be eligible for cost-share.

6. Cost-sharing **is authorized** for the establishment of a permanent vegetative cover as buffer strips, if required, according to the criteria for Filter Strips (Code 393) or Critical Area Planting (Code 342), ***plus*** one or all of the following, if it is considered essential for the protection of the Roof and Cover and/or the Heavy Use Areas:
  - a. Permanent Fencing (Code 382), Stream Crossing, (Code 578), Diversion (Code 362), Grade Stabilization Structure (Code 410), Grassed Waterway (Code 412), Lined Waterway or Outlet (Code 468) and Roof Runoff Structure (Code 558).
  - b. Preparation of surface and subsurface drainage mechanisms, as well as the utilization of lime, fertilizer, seed, straw mulch and mulch anchoring for establishing permanent vegetative cover.
  - c. Earthfill, excavation, compacting and grading operations necessary to establish the base course, including the use of gravel, crushed stone, a geotextile, or other suitable materials.
  - d. Materials such as erosion control netting, matting, staples, filter cloth, rock riprap, geoweb, box inlets, subsurface drains and culverts for runoff control measures.
  - e. Surface treatment using materials such as concrete, gravel or other materials in order to provide a stable, wearing surface.
7. When applying for cost-sharing under this practice, **all** components and their associated NRCS code numbers will be included under Section II of the MACS Water Quality Project Form. For example, if applying for a Roof or Cover, Heavy Use Area Protection, a Diversion and a Grassed Waterway, then NRCS codes 367, 561, 362 and 412 must be listed on the application.
8. The storage of mobile and non mobile equipment or supplies is prohibited. However, the mobile **farm** equipment used to routinely scrape the HUA will be permitted, only if it does not affect compliance with the Waste Management System Plan for the farm.
9. Cost-sharing is **not authorized** for the following:
  - a. Any construction or portion thereof that is greater than **60 square feet** per animal unit.
  - b. Any roof construction of eaves or overhangs greater than **2 (two) feet**.
  - c. Any construction of a peak overshoot greater than a standard roof area (square feet).

- d. The roof or cover may not be attached to any existing structure but may be attached to a new structure being built at the same time.
  - e. Prescribed Grazing (Code 528) or Access Road (Code 560).
  - f. Replacement, repair, relocation or installation of any utilities such as water, sewer, electric, gas or telephone.
  - g. Repair, replacement, modification or relocation of any building.
  - h. Replacement or reconstruction of other attached, existing BMPs, unless such replacement or reconstruction is essential to the proper functioning of the proposed Heavy Use Area.
  - i. Construction of a roof over an existing waste storage structure (See Practice Code 313).
9. A current Waste Management System Plan (WMSP), according to NRCS Standards and Specifications, must be signed by the applicant and the District Conservationist and accompany the MACS Water Quality Project Form. The WMSP must be farm-specific and include information on the situation, problem, geographic area, Nutrient Management Plan (NMP), system components, component details, waste utilization, installation timetable, and structure operation and maintenance.
  10. Applicants are required to keep their WMSP updated and current throughout the maintenance life of any animal waste treatment or containment project. These updates are the responsibility of the applicant and landowner. The District and/or a nutrient management consultant may provide technical assistance. The District is responsible for verifying the applicant has a current Waste Management System Plan.
  11. A current Nutrient Management Plan that represents the current operation must accompany the signed MACS application. The NMP must comply with Maryland Nutrient Management Regulations (COMAR 15.20.08). The plan must be reviewed and approved by the Nutrient Management Program prior to the Claim for Payment approval by the MACS Administrator.
  12. If the applicant is certain to increase the animal capacity within the next six months, *and* if the applicant will document that fact in writing to the Department's satisfaction, cost-share may be based on the total new animal capacity on the farm. The SCD must document the animal capacity increase on the Certificate of Imminent Start-up or Expansion of a Livestock Operation form and submit this form with the MACS Water Quality Project Form. The department will not process the MACS Claim for Payment until the SCD certifies in writing that the expansion has occurred *and* that the additional or new animals have been placed on the farm.

13. An operation and maintenance plan shall be developed in accordance with NRCS standards and specifications.
14. NRCS Standards and Specifications for Roofs and Covers (367) and Heavy Use Area (Code 561) shall be followed when applying these practices.
15. This practice must be properly maintained for a minimum of fifteen (15) years. At a minimum, the following measures shall be carried out for the life of the practice:
  - a. Inspect areas surrounding the Roofed/Covered Heavy Use Area after each major runoff event, and repair promptly as needed.
  - b. Maintain grass areas in adequate cover. Reseed and mow as needed, according to the operation and maintenance plan.
  - c. Fill in low areas and regrade, as needed, to maintain area integrity, using like materials as originally installed.

#### **ADDITIONAL POLICIES FOR ROOFS AND COVERS – HEAVY USE AREA PROTECTION (561)**

1. This practice must be properly maintained **without** additional cost-share during the 367 maintenance life of a minimum of fifteen (15) years. The applicant agrees to provide all equipment, labor and materials needed to meet this requirement.
2. A Roof or Cover (367) may only be built over a Heavy Use Area constructed of concrete.
3. Any existing Heavy Use Area must meet NRCS Standards and Specifications (561). A status review is to be completed for any Heavy Use Areas to be covered and submitted with the application.
4. A signed “Provisions for Heavy Use Area Protection (561), and/or, Roof and Covers (367)” sheet, and calculation sheet, must accompany the application.
5. A NRCS – “Risk Assessment for Requesting a Roof or Cover” must be completed and submitted with the application.

#### **COST-SHARE RATE**

The State cost-share payment will not exceed 87.5% of the total eligible cost, not to exceed \$50,000 per project.

## ATTACHMENTS

***Applicant(s) with an outstanding Unsatisfactory On-Farm Status Review of BMP Maintenance and Use of previous project(s) may be ineligible for further MACS Cost-Share funding. When a previous project expires with outstanding unsatisfactory status, the applicant is ineligible for any future MACS funding.***

*Attachments - The following items are needed:*

1. A copy of a recorded deed(s) for the parcel(s) where the BMP is located. If the current, appropriate deed is already on file in the MACS Office, then record both the Agreement # of the file where the deed is kept and the liber/folio numbers in the General Comments section of the Application.
2. A copy of the Real Property Data Search page from the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation's website ([www.dat.state.md.us](http://www.dat.state.md.us)) indicating the Maryland Property View Account ID Number and owner information.
3. An aerial photograph indicating the property lines as well as all existing and proposed BMPs.
4. A dimensioned plan view sketch of the area indicating the location of the proposed BMP and graphically demonstrating the layout and details of the project.
5. A farm-specific WMSP, which includes information on the situation, problem, geographic area, system components, component details, waste utilization, installation timetable, and structure operation and maintenance. This document must be signed by the District Conservationist and the applicant and/or operator.
6. A current Nutrient Management Plan must be submitted with the application.
7. If this practice is being constructed on a Heavy Use Area, attach the form 'Provisions for Heavy Use Area Protection (561), and/or, Roof and Covers (367).'